Evergreen Charter School
Virtual Meeting of the Board of Trustees
605 Peninsula Blvd, Hempstead, NY 11550
August 12, 2025

1:30 pm

The meeting was held at 605 Peninsula Boulevard

Members:

Mr. Gil Bernardino	**Present**
Dr. Sarah Brewster	**Present**
Ms. Nancy Iglesias-Gillen	**Excused**
Ms. Yvonne Mowatt	**Present**
Ms. Gladys Rodríguez	**Present**
Mr. Luis Ras	**Excused**

Also present:

Dr. Elena Litescu, Superintendent
Ms. Lisett Knox, Director of Finance and Operations
Ms. Christine Weigand, Principal K-1
Ms. Emma Collado, Principal HS
Mr. Nicolas Agosti, Principal 2-4
Ms. Carlos Pumar, AP MS
Ms. Nancy Noris AP 2-4
Mr. Shaun Skariah, Director of Special Education
Mr. Joseph Pena, Dean of Students

Note: As always, the Board Meeting was conducted in English and Spanish.

I. Call to Order By President, Mr. Gil Bernardino

Mr. Bernardino welcomed everyone.

III. Superintendent's Report By Superintendent, Dr. Elena Litescu

Benchmark 1: Student Performance

- Regents exams for HS students will be administered on scheduled dates during August.

- Collaboration discussions are taking place with various colleges & universities to ensure our HS students have access to various options after graduation.

Benchmark 2: Teaching and Learning

Shared Accountability/High Expectations:
Administrative meetings took place as scheduled to ensure all four buildings are ready to welcome staff and students on the first day of school.

Research-based Practices/Instructional Strategies:

Administration will set up goals and expectations for all teachers to set clear learning objectives, implement prior knowledge review, and differentiated instruction to maximize student learning outcomes for the next school year.

Curriculum:

- Curriculum and Instructional programs, materials and resources were ordered that they are being delivered for the 2025-26 school year.

Student Assessment:

- We received great feedback from Molloy University on our rising 5th graders who attended the Rising Stars camp, and their teacher, Ms. Vasquez.

Educational Success:

- Special Education Annual Reviews continued to take place during the summer, and the SpEd Coordinator, Mr. Skariah and the GenEd or SpEd teachers attended them to provide their feedback to the CSE

Support for Students with Diverse Learners:

- Spanish speaking teachers are providing extra support to ENL students during the summer school.

Academic Enrichment:
- Summer school, Rising Stars, Transition to Kindergarten had provided academic enrichment to students who attended these programs over the summer.

Benchmark 3: Culture, Climate, and Student and Family Engagement:

- A revised attendance policy will be implemented next year, and families will be aware at all times of their child's attendance record year-to-date.

School Health and Safety:

- Fire drills and lock down drills were conducted during the summer school.

Events:

- Several events are being planned for bringing families back to school prior to day one of school, either to meet the teacher, drop the supplies, or tour the new building.

Benchmark 7: Organizational Capacity

School Leadership:

- Administrative meetings took place throughout the summer months.

Professional Development & Staff Feedback

- The presenters for the August PD were contracted and the agenda is finalized.

Contracted Services

- Consultants were invited to provide support/training during professional development and throughout the year.

Benchmark 8: Mission and Key Design:

- Evergreen appointed a new Director for the World Languages Department. Ms. Alicia Morera, who will ensure uniformity in implementing the curriculum all grades.
- The new building tracking Platinum LEED, leadership in energy and environmental design for its new facility.
- The nutrition guidelines brochure will be distributed to all families prior to the school year's start.

Benchmark 9: Enrollment, Recruitment and Retention:

- Staffing and Recruitment efforts for the 2025-26 school continue.

IV. Questions and Comments from the Public related to Principal and Directors reports:

None.

V. Director Finance and Operations Report
By Ms. Lisett Knox, Director of Finance and Operations

- Tuition billing 1 of 6 for the new school year 2025-2026 was sent out on July 24, 2025. No payments have yet been received. We still have tuition balances owed to our school for last year. Those districts with outstanding balances for billing 6 of 6 are Rockville Centre, West Hempstead and NY City. Funding for school nurse services in the amount of $107,590,67 from Hempstead is still pending to be received for last year.

- We have submitted all claims for meals served to students from September through June to The Child Nutrition Administration. Those claims amount to $882,674 and we are pending to receive a balance of $87,760.00 for June's claims. These claims will resume in October.

- We are finalizing expenditures reports for Title claims I through IV to submit for reimbursement of expenses. We have identified all expenses to claim except for Title III. We are waiting for Admin to identify more expenses amounting to about $13,000.00.

Benchmark 5: Financial Management

- All financial reports from July 2024 through July 2025 have been submitted to our Board of Directors and School Administrators including all bank reconciliations. We are now preparing for our yearly fiscal audit that will begin the first week in September.

Benchmark 9: Enrollment

- Staff are currently supporting students to complete the registration process as we have some openings.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

Resolved the Board of Trustees approves the minutes July 27, 2025

Motion: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Second: Trustee Yvonne Mowatt
Vote: 4:0

IX. Reading of the Resolutions:

The resolutions were read in English and Spanish. Resolutions were explained.

X. Questions and comments from the public related to resolutions:

There were none.

XI. Voting of the Resolutions:

Resolutions

 # 1 Be it therefore resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the following proposals under Teaching and Learning that include professional development:

#	Name of Staff	Workshop	Date
a.	Dr. Elena Litescu	Requesting approval to contract Alina Thouyaret to provide training to Spanish teachers during Professional Development on best practices for implementing Spanish curriculum.	8/26/25-8/27/25 (1 & 1/2 Day of Training)
b.	Dr. Elena Litescu	Requesting approval to implement Magic School AI pilot with 20 teachers participating throughout the school year.	2025-2026 S.Y.
c.	Dr. Elena Litescu	Requesting approval of a revised calendar for the 2025-2026 school year.	2025-2026 S.Y.
d.	Christine Weigand	Requesting approval for Kindergarten and First Grade Saturday School for the upcoming school year.	2025-2026 S.Y.
e.	Emmanuela Collado	Requesting approval for the High School students to enroll in the college course "Poetry of America" by Arizona State University.	2025-2026 S.Y.

Motion: Sarah Brewster
Second: Gladys Rodriguez
Vote: 4:0

 # 2 Be it therefore resolved, the Board of Trustees approves the following proposals under Culture, Climate, Student/Family Engagement:

a.	Dr. Elena Litescu	Requesting approval for the BLERP for the 25-26 SY after having it posted publicly on the school's website.	2025-2026 S.Y.
b.	Dr. Elena Litescu	Requesting approval of the revised attendance policy for the 25-26 S.Y.	2025-2026 S.Y.

Motion: Sarah Brewster
Second: Yvonne Mowatt
Vote: 4:0

 # 3 Be it therefore resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the following proposals under Organization Capacity:

Name	Position	Building	Start Date
Maira Bristel	Kindergarten Teacher	Peninsula	8/18/2025
Kelly Villatoro	ENL Teacher 7-8	High School	8/18/2025
Alexandra Rebolledo	Spanish Teacher Grade 6	Loretto	8/18/2025
Patricia Espinoza	Chef	High School	TBD
Orlando Rodriguez	Facilities Supervisor	Front St	TBD

Motion: Gladys Rodriguez
Second: Sarah Brewster
Vote: 4:0

 # 4 Be it therefore resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the Executive Committee to negotiate and execute land purchases to support operations and needs of the school including but not limited to parking, and recreation as well as operational needs. All contracts will include language subject to NYSED final approval.

See attached.

Motion: Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Sarah Brewster
Vote: 4:0

XII. Questions

There were none.

XII. Additional Reports By Vice President Dr. Sarah Brewster

School Construction:

Dr. Brewster stated that we received the executed agreement from the Village on August 7th. This is the Agreement we had originally requested at the end of March. Now with the Agreement we can proceed with other inspections and required paperwork needed to obtain the certificate of occupancy and open the school. Unfortunately, this delay has had an impact. The Board and administrators are working diligently to have a successful and smooth school opening.

We are planning to officially inaugurate the new school building on August 16, 2025.

XV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm

Motion: Sarah Brewster
Second: Yvonne Mowatt
Vote: 4:0

Minutes submitted by:

Gladys Rodriguez
Secretary